

their princeling children get degrees from our top universities or internships at prestigious Washington think tanks.

President Biden should also refuse to nominate for senior positions individuals who are professionally or financially entangled with China, who could be compromised by the mere threat of sanctions.

Finally, President Biden should determine whether Chinese Ambassador Cui Tiankai was involved in these sanctions, and if so, he should be expelled immediately for this egregious effort to subvert American foreign policy.

And that is just for the short term. America must also begin to disentangle our economy from China, to decouple our economies. The Chinese Communist Party sanctions pose a threat only because American society is so deeply compromised by Chinese influence.

American corporations, the big banks, think tanks, universities, film studios, even our sports leagues—even LeBron James—are all addicted to Chinese cash. They are all part of a new China lobby that is deeply invested in the status quo and, thus, hostile to any efforts to redefine U.S.-China relations in America's interest.

This lobby makes their money in China. They make their products in China. They have made their bed in China, and now they are all vulnerable to pressure from the Chinese Government.

America hasn't been in such a bind since our earliest days, when our young Republic was encircled by hostile imperial powers.

Even during the Cold War, America had few entanglements of the sort we face today. The United States had very little trade with the Russians. We competed in separate lanes, like runners in a race.

The new Cold War with China isn't so orderly. Communist China is wealthier and has more people than did Soviet Russia, and our economies have become deeply entangled. These new sanctions are just the latest example of how that entanglement threatens our security and prosperity.

Here is how the United States can beat China in this strategic competition. First, the United States should impose restrictions on inbound and outbound investment with China. Wall Street has financed China's industrial and technological development for more than four decades and has become compromised for the bargain. That has to end.

Second, the United States should move supply chains for critical goods, such as semiconductors and pharmaceuticals, out of China and back to American soil. China, today, may be the so-called factory of the world, but it was corporate America, with its Army of bankers and lawyers and consultants, who built that factory. That has got to end as well.

Third, the United States must restrict the flow of knowledge and ad-

vanced technology between our country and China. American colleges, universities, and research laboratories are the finest in the world, but they allow Chinese nationalists to participate, even in cutting-edge research with military applications. This research has an alarming tendency to end up in China, in the weapons fielded by the People's Liberation Army against our own troops. That information pipeline needs to be shut off, and many of those Chinese nationalists need to go.

None of these steps will be easy, but the Chinese Communist Party's punitive sanctions against Trump administration officials and his blackmail campaign against the Biden administration officials demonstrate that decoupling our economies is both necessary and urgent.

The Communists in Beijing have lulled too many Americans into complacency and dependency over the course of many years. They now intend to blackmail even our government into inaction. Our intention must be different. The United States must break free of the Chinese Communist's suffocating grasp, fight back, and win.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, first of all, let me just compliment my friend from Arkansas on his great remarks. People are not aware of the threats we are facing in this country. I want to join him in encouraging the new administration to understand and address these threats.

#### NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, since last week, there have been over 20,000 members of the National Guard stationed here at the Capitol. They are here—and have been here and are still here—to keep us safe, keep the Members safe, Senators safe, staff, press—all of us. It seems that people are speculating that maybe this was overkill, maybe we didn't really need this many people here. They are wrong. This was a nice, successful inauguration and successful, peaceful transfer of power because they were there. I made that very clear to the ones I have been talking to in the field over the last 3 days. I know, firsthand, that they are really outstanding professionals, these guards.

We have about 400 guards here from the Oklahoma National Guard. I visited with them—I guess it was on Wednesday—in five different groups. I went around and talked to them because they weren't all in the same location, and we thanked them for the service and the sacrifices they are making. Long hours. These guys are having long hours. They are the best of the best. The many I saw did deployments in Afghanistan.

When I was talking to them, they would remember, and say: Well, Senator INHOFE, I remember we were to-

gether in Afghanistan; we were together in Ukraine. These guys—that was 10 years ago, and they are still on the job working. I don't know what we could have done without them.

In fact, I asked several of them, how many of you in this group, from Oklahoma, in the Guard, have never been to Washington before, that this is your first trip. More than half of them had never been to Washington before. That was a great opportunity for them too. But I am really humbled and grateful for what they are doing for us, and I am sure all of our colleagues are.

That is why I was so shocked and really angry last night—and I picked it up on TV—I didn't know anything about it—when I heard that the guards were being made to feel like they were unwelcome by some person in the Capitol Police, and they were to take their rest breaks someplace else and actually sent to the parking garage, of all places. Our Guard members are being lodged in hotels. They are working shifts, 12-hour shifts a day. They are long shifts, on their feet, so they need to have rest breaks. And they can't do that lying in the Senate garage.

They have 2 hours on and 1 hour off, plus time for eating and that type of thing. We can all agree they should be comfortable on their breaks, a place to sit and lie down, eat, charge their batteries, and things they have to do—talk to their families at home. That is what they are supposed to be doing. That is precisely where they were. They were using the buildings here in the Capitol before they were made to feel unwelcome and pushed to the garage.

I understand, and I am glad that they have moved back in and they are now well taken care of. And that is a good thing. But they should never have had to go through this in the first place.

What we did, you have to find out—you get to the bottom of it. And that is what we are doing now. We are getting answers. I called the acting chief of the Capitol Police this morning. I called General McConville. General McConville is the Chief of Staff of the Army, and they are all working to find out how this happened. The acting chief, Pittman, says the guards were never asked to leave yesterday.

I know that she believes that. But several—multiple members of the military said, no, they were told to leave. We know one thing; that whether it was confusion from the fog and the friction and the environment or whatever it was, the troops didn't move on their own, so they were asked by somebody.

This isn't a blame game. But I do want to know what happened to make sure it doesn't happen again. This is what happened. There was one uniformed police officer who issued an order without authority or without going through the chain of command. I am glad that the U.S. Capitol Police and the Guard are talking and trying to figure this out. We are going to be

able to identify who that person was, and we will make that public. But, ultimately, one message for our National Guard up here: You are appreciated. You are welcome. We are very, very grateful for the sacrifices that you made. And if you are ever told at any point that you need to vacate and don't have a comfortable place, just go to Russell 205, and I will make sure that you will be very comfortable in my office.

I know that there is bipartisan outrage about this, so I think you will have plenty of places to rest. You have done a great job. You will be returning home soon. And you will be able to say: Job well done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

#### BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I want to congratulate now-Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin on his confirmation to be Secretary of Defense. I spoke yesterday about his confirmation, the two votes that had to happen. I had the honor of introducing this great American at his confirmation hearing at the Armed Services Committee. I served with him in the military many years ago. And I think he is going to be an important addition to President Biden's team.

One of the things that we have been working on, over the last several years, is rebuilding our military after drastic cuts by the Obama-Biden administration. Hopefully, we are not going to see that again. One of the reasons I was strongly supporting now-Secretary Austin was because I believe—and I certainly hope this is a correct belief, and I have commitments from him—he won't agree with that, although I am sure some, unfortunately, in this body and others in the Biden administration are going to agree with drastic cuts to the military. It will hurt readiness. So one of the reasons that I think he is going to be a good Secretary is not just his exceptional character, humility, leadership but because he knows what will happen if there are dramatic cuts like there were in the second term of the Obama-Biden administration to our military. Not good.

One of the things I had the opportunity to talk to him about—one of the things that has been a huge positive for America over the last decade, for so many reasons, is that we have become the world's energy superpower again—like we were, essentially, during World War II.

What do I mean by that? Prior to the pandemic, we were the No. 1 producer of oil. Yes, people still need to use oil. I know some of my colleagues in this body don't believe that, but it is true; the No. 1 producer of natural gas, clean burning natural gas. We are starting to export it all around the world; No. 1 producer of renewables. So all of the above, America is the superpower of energy.

This is good. It is great for the national security of our Nation, for a whole host of reasons. General Austin understands that—Secretary Austin understands that. It is great for jobs. In the 2008–2009 recession, the No. 1 sector of the economy that got us out of the great recession was the energy sector, in terms of GDP growth and jobs.

It is great for the environment. Why do I say that? Some people tilt their heads. It is great for the environment because in America—certainly, in my State, Alaska—we have the highest standards on the environment of any place in the world by far. It is not even close. If you need energy, which you do, you should do it, produce it in the place that respects the environment the most—not Russia, not Saudi Arabia—America, Alaska.

It is good for energy security. It is good for manufacturing low-cost natural gas throughout the country. Like I said, it is really good for jobs. These are really good jobs. Resource development jobs are really good jobs. They support working families and the middle class. Everybody knows that. That is a good thing that is happening in the United States of America.

There are some fringe groups that don't like energy. Unfortunately, some of my colleagues in the Senate don't like hydrocarbons. By the way, as we became the world's energy superpower, our greenhouse gas emissions declined probably more than any other industrialized economy in the world. Why? Because natural gas is clean-burning. So this is a win-win-win-win-win on so many fronts.

Here is why I am speaking right now: Because it is all at risk. It is all at risk. The first few days of the new Biden Administration have seen an unprecedented assault on resource development and energy jobs, an attack on the men and women—working men and women with good wages—who produce really important resources for this great Nation and now for other countries because we export a lot of these resources. It is an assault on good energy jobs, good resource development jobs that have been the bedrock of millions of middle-class Americans for decades.

Let me just give you an example, just in my State. Everybody knows about ANWR, right? This body moved in terms of legislation for leases. We did it the right way, with a law passed by the Senate and the House, signed by the President to move forward on leases.

The first day on the job, the new President decides he is going to suspend everything with regard to ANWR. OK, that wasn't a surprise, to be honest, but, of course, it was a huge disappointment. I am not sure it is legal. Like I said, we did it the legal way. He is doing it the old-fashioned, "Obama pen and phone" way. There are probably a lot of questionable legalities there. That is one. We were expecting that.

Here is the other one. We have another part of Alaska called the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, set aside by Congress for oil and gas development. It is not controversial. We have been doing it for decades. It was originally called the Naval Petroleum Reserve for America. This is not controversial. And we have a lot of energy projects in the NPRA that are ongoing. Heck, even the Obama-Biden administration allowed us to drill there because that is what Congress said for decades, and it is good for the country.

We need energy. We need energy. So if we need it, shouldn't we get it from America? Shouldn't we get it from American workers? That is better than getting it from Russia. The NPRA is a really important area of America's energy production in my State—the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska. It has been that way for decades.

So there is a moratorium on any more permits for energy production in the NPRA yesterday. I woke up to text messages from Alaskans saying: Senator, help us. My little company is going to go out of business. I have to lay off a bunch of workers.

Workers who are doing what? Producing American energy.

Since when was that bad, Mr. President? Since when was that bad?

One more thing, they say: Well, it is only a 60-day moratorium.

In Alaska, because we have the highest standards in the world on producing energy, exploring for energy, we only do exploration in the winter. It costs more for energy companies. Why do we do that? Because it is the high standards that we have—the highest standards of any place on the planet Earth. What do I mean by that?

We build what are called ice roads and ice pads on the tundra when we explore and when we drill. That means we just do it in the winter. You build these ice roads and ice pads that cost a lot of money and when you move equipment across the tundra on ice, you drill for 3 months and when the winter is over, you move it off. The ice melts, and there is not one tiny impact. It is called zero-impact drilling and exploration.

I used to be in charge of this in Alaska. I am very familiar with it. We have the highest standards on the planet. So if you put a 60-day moratorium on drilling on the NPRA, guess what. You lose the whole season. You lose the whole season. That is what the Biden Administration did yesterday. I literally have people back home in my great State calling frantically saying hundreds—if not thousands—of jobs are at risk. That was day two of the Biden Administration: Let's crush every single energy job in America.

Why? I don't know why. I don't know why.

Since when is it bad to produce energy for your fellow Americans? We need it. We have the highest standards in the world. These are great middle-class jobs. But on day one in this administration, they are attacking the